

Lyme Disease Surveillance in Massachusetts, 2005

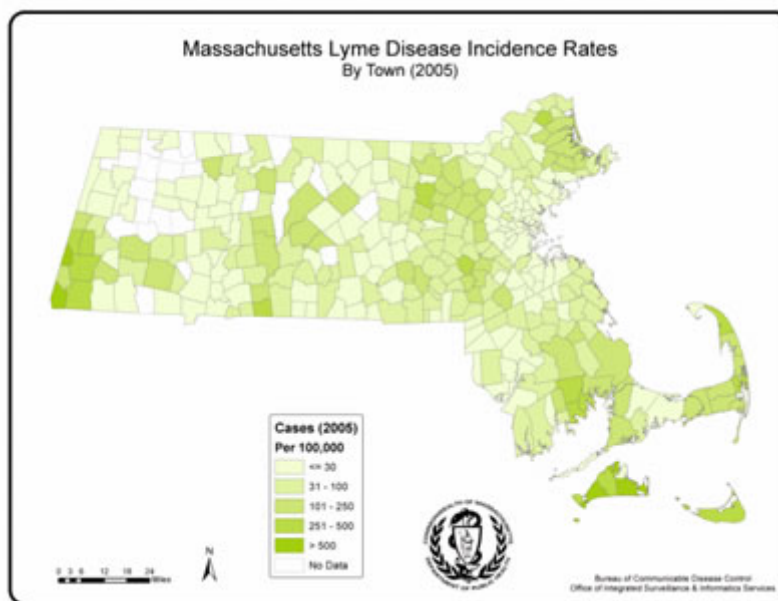
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

2005 Surveillance Highlights

- ✱ 2,341 confirmed Lyme disease cases were reported in MA in 2005, representing a 46% increase over the number reported in 2004
- ✱ The largest increases were seen in Suffolk, Norfolk, and Middlesex Counties
- ✱ The majority of confirmed cases had onsets in June, July and August
- ✱ The average age for a confirmed Lyme disease case was 39 years. The highest reported incidence rates were among children aged 5-9 years and adults aged 60-64 years
- ✱ 35% of confirmed cases did not report an EM rash

The map below illustrates Lyme disease incidence rates per 100,000 by town in Massachusetts in 2005. The darker the shading the higher the incidence. Lyme disease is considered endemic in the entire state of Massachusetts.

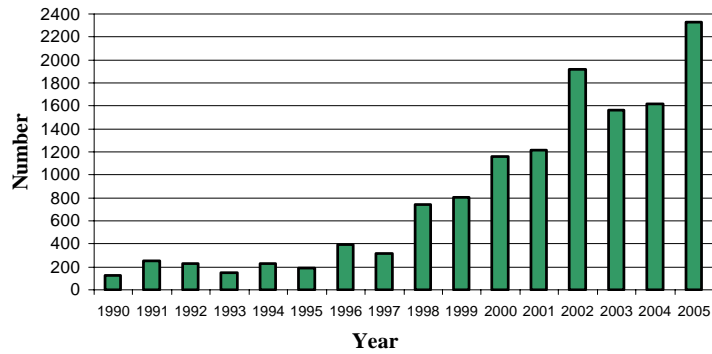
Areas of highest incidence include Cape Cod and southeastern Massachusetts, the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, areas north of Boston in Essex county, towns along the upper Middlesex and Worcester county border, along the Quabbin Reservoir watershed, and in southern Berkshire county.



County*	2005 Confirmed Cases (#)	Incidence Rate (per 100,000)
Barnstable	229	101.1
Berkshire	66	50.1
Bristol	148	27.1
Dukes	90	577.2
Essex	254	34.4
Franklin	24	33.2
Hampden	118	25.6
Hampshire	68	44.3
Middlesex	444	30.4
Nantucket	29	285.2
Norfolk	252	38.6
Plymouth	320	65.0
Suffolk	45	6.9
Worcester	238	30.4
State Total	2341	36.3

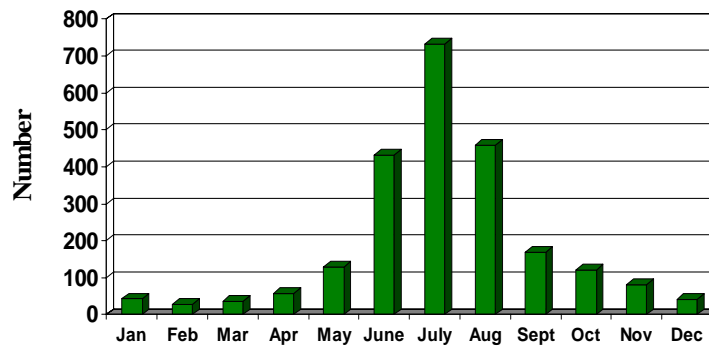
* County was unknown for 16 cases

**Number of Confirmed Lyme Disease Cases Reported in MA
By Year, 1990-2005**



MDPH Office of Integrated Surveillance and Informatics Services

**Number of Confirmed Lyme Disease Cases Reported in MA
by Month of Onset, 2005**



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